

PATENT APPLICATION

Group Art Unit: 2613

Docket No.: 104651

S. An

Examiner:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hidekazu KOJIMA et al.

Application No.: 09/423,461

Filed: November 30, 1999

For:

OPTICAL FIBER OBSERVING IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAY 2 9 2003 **Technology Center 2600**

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein. one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

 \boxtimes This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).

 \boxtimes Attached is our check no. 142492 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 15-0461 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.

 \boxtimes 2. An English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference is attached hereto.

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Respectfully submitted,

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AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

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